

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

ERNICKE, Hans-Dieter
Schwibbogenplatz 20
86153 Augsburg
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29. März 2006

PATENTANWÄLTE

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

09 March 2006 (09.03.2006)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

772-1030 he

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/003836

International filing date (day/month/year)

10 April 2004 (10.04.2004)

Applicant

KUKA SCHWEISSANLAGEN GMBH et al

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Agnes Wittmann-Regis

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 772-1030 he	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/003836	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 10 April 2004 (10.04.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 April 2003 (17.04.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant KUKA SCHWEISSANLAGEN GMBH			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

Date of issuance of this report
02 March 2006 (02.03.2006)

Authorized officer

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Form PCT/IB/373 (January 2004)

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

PCT

Translation

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>		Date of mailing (day/month/year)
Applicant's or agent's file reference 772-1030 he		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/003836	International filing date (day/month/year) 10.04.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.04.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		
Applicant KUKA SCHWEISSANLAGEN GMBH		

1.	This opinion contains indications relating to the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application
2.	FURTHER ACTION <p>If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.</p> <p>If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.</p> <p>For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>
3.	For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/003836

Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. II

Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not yet been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/003836

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis 1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	4, 6, 9, 12, 14, 17, 19	YES
	Claims	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	17, 19	YES
	Claims	1-16, 18	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-19	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
1. Reference is made to the following documents:			
D1: ✓ EP 0073185 A (IGM Industrieegeräte und Maschinenfabrik GmbH) - 2 March 1983			
D2: ✓ EP 0012741 A (IGM Industrieegeräte und Maschinenfabrik GmbH) - 25 June 1980			
D3: US 2002007548 A (U. Stoewer; B. Koehler; N. Kosuch) - 24 January 2002			
D4: DE 10017897 A (Tünkers Maschinenbau GmbH) - 25 October 2001			
2. Independent claim 1			
<p>The subject matter of claim 1 is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2). Document D1 discloses (the references between parentheses relate to this document):</p> <p>a processing device for parts, comprising a multiaxial conveying device (<i>two-axis gantry robot</i>), a support (<i>beam 1</i>) being arranged on the conveying device, said support having several multiaxial processing units (<i>jointed-arm robots 2</i>) with tools (<i>welding tools 12</i>).</p>			

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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All the features of claim 1 are therefore known from D1.

Documents D2 and D3 also disclose all the features of claim 1:

- D2 discloses a robot which carries a beam (3) on which two multiaxial welding units (4) are movable.
- D3 discloses a riveting station which has a multiaxial conveying device (9) with a support (13) on which a robot (14) is arranged.

3. Independent claim 16

3.1 Preliminary remark concerning clarity

Claim 16 is not clearly defined within the meaning of PCT Article 6. The reasons for this are as follows:

The feature "zum Bearbeiten von **kubischen** Bauteilen" ["for processing **cubic** parts"] is not supported by the description. This feature is even contrary to the example "insbesondere Karosseriebauteilen" ["in particular body parts"], since a body part would never be described as cubic, but rather usually as flat.

This feature is therefore not considered further.

3.2 Lack of novelty

The subject matter of claim 16 is not novel within

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/003836

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

the meaning of PCT Article 33(2). Document D3 discloses (the references within parentheses relate to this document):

a method of processing parts by means of a multiaxial conveying device (*mounting frame* 9), a support (13) being directed into the interior space of the part (1) by the conveying device, said support (13) having a multiaxial processing unit (*robot* 14) with a tool (15), and the processing unit carrying out processing operations on the inside of the part.

All the features of claim 16 are therefore known from D3.

4. Dependent claims

4.1 Dependent claims 2 to 15 and 18 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer back, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step. The applicant is requested to have a look at the following passages and figures of documents D1 to D4:

- Claim 2: see D1, figure 1 and page, 2, lines 3 to 5
- Claim 3: see D1, figure 1 and page 2, lines 7 to 12
- Claim 4: see D4, figure 1
- Claim 5: see D2, page 5, lines 18 to 23

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

- Claim 6: see D2, page 5, lines 18 to 23
- Claim 7: see D1, figure 1 and page 2, line 3
- Claim 8: see D1, figure 1 and page 2, lines 3 to 12 (one translatory axis (3) and five rotation axes (4 to 8))
- Claim 9: see D4, figure 1
- Claim 10: see D3, figure 8, paragraph 37
- Claim 11: see D1, page 1, lines 4 and 5
- Claim 12: the gantry robot disclosed in D1 has by definition two supports (columns 9). One of the supports can therefore be regarded as an "additional support".
- Claim 13: see D3, figure 4
- Claim 14: see D3, figure 4
- Claim 15: see D1, figure 1 and page 2, lines 14 to 20
- Claim 18: see D3, figure 4

4.2 The combinations of features contained in dependent claims 17 and 19 are neither known from nor suggested in an obvious manner by the available prior art.

5. Industrial applicability

The subject matter of claims 1 to 19 is regarded as industrially applicable.